

Design of Telemetry System for Galileo Support

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Abstract

The unique requirements for supporting the Galileo mission using a Low Gain Antenna have forced the Deep Space Network (DSN) to adopt a new strategy for telemetry data processing. This strategy is implemented mostly in the new Deep Space Complex Communications Galileo Telemetry subsystem (DGT). The support configuration and telemetry processing of the DGT will be described.

The system consists of two parallel telemetry processing strings: a real-time string and a non-real-time string. The real-time string utilizes a receiver, a symbol combiner and a feedback decoder, and the non-real-time string employs a front end recorder, a full spectrum combiner, a demodulator and the same feedback decoder. Maximum utilization of the system is achieved through (1) close interaction between assemblies within the system as well as between tracking stations during hand-over periods, (2) properly partitioning the functions of the two strings so that real-time string processes non-problematic data while non-real-time string focuses on data gaps. Gap processing, with adaptive algorithm distinguishes this system from other systems currently available in the Deep Space Network. Maximum use of commercial-off-the-shelf equipment reduces the development effort and increases the feasibility of upgrades.

The system supports intercontinental arraying between Goldstone, California and Canberra, Australia. Pitfalls associated with long-distance arraying in real-time and remedies to minimize the operational burden will be discussed. A discussion of possible applications of the developed system is also given.